

# MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-Ninth Synod

OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTERIUM

OF

THE STATE OF NEW-YORK

AND ADJACENT PARTS.

---

CONVENED IN THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT PALATINE,  
MONTGOMERY CO., NEW-YORK, ON THE 30TH AND 31ST DAYS OF  
AUGUST, AND THE 1ST AND 2D DAYS OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1834.

---

NEW-YORK:

HENRY LUDWIG, PRINTER,

Corner of Greenwich & Vesey-sts.

---

1834.



MINUTES

OF THE

General Conference of the

of the

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTRY

OF

THE STATE OF NEW YORK

AND ADJACENT PARTS

CONVENED IN THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT ALBANY,  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 1834, AND CONTINUED  
UNTIL THE 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1834.

NEW-YORK:

HENRY LEONARD, PRINTER.

General Conference of the

1834.



**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Thirty-Ninth Synod**  
OF THE  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTERIUM**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF NEW-YORK AND ADJACENT PARTS.**

*Saturday, August 30th, 1834.*

IN compliance with Resolution XXXVIII. of the thirty-eighth Session of Synod, the members of the Ministerium and lay-delegates assembled at the Lutheran Church under the pastoral care of the Rev. C. A. Smith, in Palatine, Montgomery County, N. Y. At 3 o'clock, P.M., the exercises preparatory to the celebration of the Lord's Supper were held in the church, and a discourse delivered by the Rev. Professor G. B. Miller, on John xv. 13, 14. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." The services of the altar were conducted on this occasion by the Rev. J. Berger.

*Sunday, August 31st.*

At 10 o'clock, A.M., a very numerous congregation joined in the solemnities of public worship. Rev. Candidate Lewis Smith, jun., performed the usual altar service, when the Rev. President, Dr. Wackerhagen, after a solemn address to the throne of grace, delivered the Synodical discourse on 2 Cor. v. 17. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

At 3 o'clock, P.M., the services of the sanctuary were resumed, and the Rev. Henry N. Pohlman addressed the congregation on Galatians v. 11. "Then is the offence of the cross ceased:" after which, he, assisted by the Rev. Senior, Dr. Geissenhainer, administered the sacred symbols of the broken [body and shed blood of the Redeemer, to the clerical and lay members of the



Ministerium present, and to a large number of the members of the congregation.

In the evening, the Rev. Professor H. I. Smith delivered a discourse on Isaiah xxi. 11. "Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?"

The exercises of public worship were also conducted, on this occasion, in some of the neighbouring churches. The Rev. Professor Miller preached at Canajoharie in the morning on Psalm cxix. 59. "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies." At the same time, the Rev. Candidate, Philip Merkle, preached at Stone Arabia, in the German language, from Mark viii. 1—8. "In those days, the multitude being very great, and having nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples unto him," &c. In the evening, the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel delivered a discourse, in the church at Canajoharie, on John vi. 66—68. "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

### *First Session.*

*Monday, Sept. 1.*

At 8 o'clock, A. M. the clerical and lay-members of the Ministerium assembled in the Church for the transaction of business. The Brethren united their voices in a hymn of praise to God, and the Synod was constituted with prayer by the President.

On calling the roll, the Secretary registered the following clerical members present.

### *Ordained Ministers.*

1. Rev. P. F. Mayer, D. D., Philadelphia, Pa.
2. " F. G. Mayer, Albany, N. Y.
3. " A. Wackerhagen, D. D., Clermont, N. Y.
4. " F. W. Geissenhainer, D. D., New-York City.
5. Prof. G. B. Miller, A. M., Hartwick Seminary, N. Y.
6. Rev. H. N. Pohlman, New Germantown, N. J.
7. " J. Berger, A. M. Claverack, N. Y.
8. " F. W. Geissenhainer, Jun., New-York City.



9. Rev. C. B. Thuemmel, A. M. Clinton, N. Y.
10. " Wm. D. Strobel, New-York City.
11. Prof. H. I. Smith, Hartwick Seminary, N. Y.
12. Rev. C. A. Smith, Palatine, N. Y.

### *Candidates.*

13. Rev. Lewis Smith, Jun. New-York City.
14. " Christian F. Welden, do.
15. " Wm. A. Fetter, Rochester & Rush, N. Y.
16. " Richard Collier, Spruce Run, N. J.
17. " Philip Merkle, Newark, N. J.

### *Lay Representatives.*

18. Mr. Daniel Pohlman, Albany.
19. " Henry Feller, Germantown & Livingston.
20. " Lewis Smith, German Cong. of St. Matthews, N. Y.
21. " John Rich, Hartwick.
22. " Albert Traver, Ghent and Millville.
23. " Henry Otten, English Cong. of St. Matthews, N. Y.
24. " John C. Nellis, Palatine.
25. " Francis B. Lopez, Newark, N. J.
26. " Jacob Shaffer, Jun. presented his credentials, and was received as lay-delegate from the Congregation of Rhinebeck.
27. Col. Philip N. Bonesteel presented his credentials, and was admitted as Commissioner from a part of the Congregation of Rhinebeck.

### *Clerical Members Absent.*

1. Rev. J. F. G. Uhl, Churchtown, N. Y.
2. " Wm. J. Starman, Waldoborough, Me. *excused.*
3. " F. H. Guinther, Buffalo, N. Y. *excused.*
4. " Wm. J. Eyer, Wurtemburgh, N. Y. *excused.*
5. " H. Hayunga, Williamsburgh and Osnabruck, U. C.
6. " Wm. L. Gibson, Saddle River, N. J.
7. Candidate C. E. Denninger, Laforgeville, N. Y.

### *Congregations not represented.*

Churchtown, Buffalo, Wurtemburgh, United Congregations of Laforgeville, Pamela, Evans Mills, &c., Rochester & Rush,



N. Y., New Germantown, German Valley, Saddle River, Ramapough, and Spruce Run, N. J., Waldborough, Me., Williamsburgh, and Osnabruck, U. C.

The Rev. Messrs. Harrison and Jones being introduced to Synod, by the Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer, presented their credentials as delegates from the New-York Congregational Association, and were unanimously and cordially invited to seats as advisory members.

### *Election of Officers.*

Prof. G. B. Miller and Mr. Lewis Smith, were appointed tellers, and after receiving and counting the ballots, the following officers were announced as unanimously elected for the ensuing three years:—

REV. AUGUSTUS WACKERHAGEN, D. D., *President.*

REV. HENRY NEWMAN POHLMAN, *Secretary.*

REV. FREDERICK W. GEISSENHAINER, Jr., *Treasurer.*

The Minutes of the XXXVIII. Synod were produced, and unanimously adopted.

The Rev. President, in compliance with the requirement of the Constitution, made a report to the house, of the business transacted by him, since the adjournment of the Ministerium, and communicated such intelligence concerning the interests of our Zion as he had received during the recess. (*See Appendix A.*)

*I. Resolved*, That this cheering report be accepted, and together with the accompanying documents, laid upon the table, to be acted upon in due order of business.

The Rev. Mr. Riser, of the Synod of Maryland, was introduced to the house, and invited to a seat as an advisory member.

The proceedings of the sister Synods of Hartwick, Pennsylvania, Ohio, South Carolina, and Virginia, were presented for consideration and distribution.

A communication from the Trustees, Elders, and Deacons, of St. Peter's Church, Rhinebeck, was handed in by delegate Shaffer, read, and laid upon the table for future consideration.

Commissioner Bonesteel, in the name of that part of the Rhinebeck Congregation, which he represented, requested to be supplied by Synod with preaching during the ensuing year.



Rev. Professor G. B. Miller gave notice that he should, at some future stage of the proceedings, propose to Synod, the expediency of raising funds for the establishment of an additional professorship in our Theological Seminary at Hartwick.

Rev. Dr. P. F. Mayer remarked, that he intended at the proper time, to present a resolution expressive of the views of Synod in relation to the noble efforts now making by the American Bible Society.

A verbal communication was received from delegate F. B. Lopez, in relation to the Congregation at Newark, N. J., begging of Synod to be supplied occasionally with English preaching, and stating that Elizabethtown and Rahway presented a fine field for the missionary enterprize of our church.

Rev. J. Berger stated his intention of proposing the appointment of a Committee to revise the Constitution, for the purpose of making such slight alterations as they may deem necessary, with a view to its republication.

Rev. Wm. D. Strobel gave notice that he would, before the adjournment of Synod, propose the appointment of a Committee on the state and prospects of the Lutheran Church in the United States.

A communication from the Congregations at Rochester and Rush, requesting admission into this Ministerium, and asking for aid from the Missionary Fund was received, and laid upon the table for the consideration of Synod.

The letters from our absent brethren, Rev. Wm. J. Starman, and Wm. J. Eyer, having been read, it was

II. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Wm. J. Starman is excused, and that so much of his letter as refers to Missionary concerns, is referred to the Missionary and Education Committee.

III. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Wm. J. Eyer is excused.

The clergy next handed in their parochial reports, comprising their ministerial acts since the last meeting of Synod. (See Table.)



# PAROCHIAL RETURNS.

	Baptisms.		No. of Congregations.	No. admitted from other churches.	No. of individuals who have partaken of the Lord's Supper.	No. entitled to Communion.	No. removed.	No. of deaths of members.	No. of Funerals attended in Congregation.	Sunday Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.		No. of Catechumens.	No. of Candidates for Confirmation.	Post-Offices.
	Infants.	Adults.										Adults.	Children.			
Dr. P. F. Mayer,	1	2	20						43	2	19		104			Philadelphia, Pa.
Rev. F. G. Mayer,	1	3	3	1	272	221	2	4	9	1	6	2	50	25	8	Albany, N. Y.
Dr. Wackerhagen,	3	13	13	1	126	370	4	1	23	1	4		36	8		Clermont, Columbia Co., N. Y.
Dr. F. W. Geissenhainer, &	2	31	31	145	533	600		14	40	1	12	10	90	30		{ New-York City, 509, Broome-st.
Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. }	1	2	6			33	5	2		4	12	3				{ New-York City, 507, Broome-st.
" G. B. Miller,	2	2	5	1	200	125			8		12		68			Hartwick Seminary, N. Y.
" H. N. Pohlman,	2		23	2	172	200	6	3	13	1			35			New Germantown, Hunterdon Co., N. J.
" F. H. Guinther,	2	4	4	2	102	184			18							Buffalo, N. Y.
" J. Berger,	1	14	14		240				16							Claverack, Columbia Co., N. Y.
" Wm. J. Eyer,	1	7	15	3	20	175	6	6	17	1	10		75	9		Rhinebeck Flats, N. Y.
" C. B. Thuemmel,*	2	1	13	1	98	210	3	2	3				40			Clinton, Oneida Co., N. Y.
" Wm. D. Strobel,	2	4	16		150	120	3	2	3	1						New-York City, 497, Broome-st.
" C. A. Smith,	2	3	3		64	130		2								Palatine, Montgomery Co., N. Y.
" C. F. Welden,†	2	3	12					2	10	2						Rush, Munroe Co., N. Y.
" W. A. Fetter,	2	2	2		166	23		2	5							Waldoborough, Me.
" Wm. J. Starman,	2	2	2	1	32	94	4	3		2	12	7	60			Clarksville, Hunterdon Co., N. J.
" R. Collier,	1	2			17			1								Newark, N. J.
" P. Merkle,†	1	9	5		212	5				3	1		45			Laforceville, Jefferson Co., N. Y.
" C. E. Denninger,	6															

\* As Missionary in Canajoharie.

† Embracing the period of five months of his labours as Missionary at Newark, N. J.

‡ Embracing the period of nine months of his labours as missionary at Rochester and Rush.

|| Religious instruction and Catechization.



## MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

In addition to the several items contained in the above returns, Dr. Mayer reports, that he celebrated the Lord's Supper, in September last, with 128 communicants; on Christmas-day with 133; on Good Friday with 220, and on Whitsunday with 130:—that the accustomed services continue to be rendered by him—divine service twice, and a catechising of the children of the congregation, on each Lord's day; and a lecture every Wednesday evening:—that among the institutions in the congregation for the promotion of Christian knowledge and piety, are a Tract and Book Society, and a Society for the relief of indigent members: that the sum of \$160 was received at a public collection in aid of a new Lutheran Church in Montgomery Co. Pa.; and that \$220 were obtained on private application, in aid of the Hymn Book Committee.

Rev. F. G. Mayer reports with regard to the number of persons in his church entitled to communion, that it is continually increasing, particularly on account of the emigrations from Germany; that none are enumerated except such as settle in Albany, not transient persons who may happen to be present on occasions of celebrating the Lord's Supper; that he has regular preaching twice on the Lord's day in English, and for two years past a third time public worship in the evening, in the German language; that the institutions in the Congregation for the promotion of Christian knowledge and piety, are regular catechisation, and a Bible-class, to whom he lectures once a week, instructing them in the evidences of Christianity, Sacred Geography, and Oriental Customs; that confirmations take place at Easter or Whitsuntide; and that \$20 were collected in the congregation in aid of the Hymn Book Committee.

Dr. Wackerhagen remarks: "A great number of the families which constitute my parishioners, being located on lease-lands, frequent changes of abode unavoidably take place, which is highly unfavourable to a regular course of religious instruction, and to the reception of new members from among the young as well as from those who are more advanced in life; the intermixture, and consequent intermarriages of different denominations exert a similar influence."

Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jun., reports, that the congregations worshipping in St. Matthews, Walker-street, N. Y., are, one German and the other English, called, The United German Lutheran Churches, in the city of N. Y.; and remarks: "On the 10th of October, 1833, I visited the Germans in Newark, N. J. in company with Mr. Lewis Smith, Jun., and established them into a congregation, under the charge of Mr. Smith. During his ministry there, I baptized several children, and celebrated the Lord's Supper on the 17th day of November, 1833, with 31 persons—and on the 16th day of February, 1834, with 16 communicants. In October, 1833, I was requested by the Reformed Congregation in the city of New-York, to supply their pulpit in the morning in German, until they should obtain a regular pastor. On Christmas I held communion there with 67 members—and on Easter with 58. On the 11th day of May, 1834, Rev. Candidate Lewis Smith, Jun. was inducted by me into that church, upon the request of the congregation, as the regular pastor."

Rev. H. N. Pohlman remarks: "In addition to the regular services on the Lord's day, we have a lecture in the church at New Germantown, on some passage of Scripture every Wednesday evening, and every Friday evening a lecture on the Sunday School lesson, or a prayer meeting in the Academy—besides a lecture every other Saturday evening in the Church at German Valley. The attention paid to divine truth is good, and the state of the Congregations on the whole flourishing."

Rev. J. Berger remarks: "I have preached, baptized, confirmed, and administered the Lord's Supper in the Congregation of St. Thomas, at Churchtown, under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. F. G. Uhl. The baptisms there administered by me are recorded in the Church Record of my Congregation at Ghent, and included in my returns; so are the funerals; but the confirmations and communicants are registered by the Pastor. There are several Sunday Schools within the limits of my congregations, but none of them are exclusively Lutheran."

Rev. Wm. J. Starman remarks: "I have had two protracted meetings amongst my people the last week of April and May; some of my ministerial brethren of the Congregational Churches have assisted me. The meetings were well attended, very solemn, and I believe a blessing has attended them. Some appear to be changed in their dispositions, and live conformable to the pattern



and precepts of the Saviour—others are anxiously seeking the way to life. Attention to the word continues greater than it has been. I preach every Sunday a third lecture, at 5 o'clock, in one or the other school-houses in this town, which are generally filled. The visible beneficial effects of the above-mentioned meetings are principally confined to the young, who stand so much in need of it, and we of them."

Rev. R. Collier reports, that he has service twice on each Lord's day, and once or twice each week in the vicinity of the congregation, and that he has a Bible class in a flourishing condition.

IV. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer's accounts and vouchers be referred for inspection, to a committee, consisting of Rev. Messrs. G. B. Miller, and Henry I. Smith, and lay-delegate, Mr. H. Otten, and that they audit all bills which may be presented against the Ministerium.

The Rev. Mr. Murphy, of the Dutch Reformed Church at St. Johnsville, was introduced to Synod, and invited to a seat as an advisory member.

The Treasurer received the following contributions in aid of the Synodical, Missionary, and Education funds:—

#### CONTRIBUTIONS.

	Synodical.	Missionary.	Education.
From Dr. P. F. Mayer, . . . . .	5 00		
" ditto, in addition, . . . . .	1 00		
" Churchtown, . . . . .	2 00	8 00	5 00
" Albany, per D. Pohlman, . . . . .	2 50	2 50	
" Rev. F. G. Mayer, . . . . .	1 00		
" Sunday School in Luth. ch., Albany, . . . . .		2 37½	
" Germantown, Livingston, and Pine Plains, . . . . .	3 00	2 00	3 00
" United G. L. churches, N. Y. City, . . . . .	5 00	25 25	5 00
" Dr. F. W. Geissenhainer, . . . . .	1 00		
" Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr. . . . .	1 00		
" New Germantown & German Valley, . . . . .	4 00	7 00	7 00
" Rev. H. N. Pohlman, . . . . .	1 00		
" Dr. A. Wackerhagen, . . . . .	1 00		
" Ghent and Millville, . . . . .	4 00	2 00	2 00
" J. Berger, . . . . .	1 00		
" Hartwick, per Rev. G. B. Miller,* . . . . .	2 00	10 00	16 75
" Rev. G. B. Miller, . . . . .	1 00		
" Buffalo, . . . . .	5 00		
" Wurtemburgh, . . . . .	2 00	3 50	3 50
" Rhinebeck, per Rev. H. N. Pohlman, . . . . .		5 00	5 00
" St. James's, New-York City, . . . . .	5 00	10 00	10 00
" Rev. W. D. Strobel, . . . . .	1 00		
" " C. B. Thuemmel, . . . . .	2 00	1 00	1 00
" Palatine and Stone Arabia, . . . . .	7 25		
" Rochester and Rush, . . . . .	1 00	2 00	
" Rev. L. Smith, jr., . . . . .	1 00		
" " J. Harrison, . . . . .	1 00		
" " H. I. Smith, . . . . .	1 00		
	\$61 75	80 62½	58 25

\* The Rev. Professor reports, in addition to the above, that probably as much as sixty dollars may be raised in the way of board, among the members of his congregation, and the inhabitants of Hartwick during the ensuing year.



The following contributions were received by the Treasurer, in aid of the Hymn Book Committee.

St. John's Church, Philadelphia, \$200. Rev. P. F. Mayer, D. D., \$20. Ebenezer Church, Albany, \$20. Rev. F. G. Mayer, \$20. Rev. A. Wackerhagen, D. D., \$5. St. Thomas' Church, Churchtown, \$5. Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, D. D., \$20. Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jun., \$30. Rev. Professor G. B. Miller, \$25. St. James Church, New-York, \$15. Rev. W. D. Strobel, \$20. Rev. C. B. Thuemmel, \$10. Rev. H. I. Smith, \$10. Rev. J. Berger, \$5. Rev. R. Collier, \$5. Mr. Henry Ludwig, \$5. Mr. Henry Otten, \$3. Mr. John C. Nellis, \$3. Mr. Henry H. Feller, \$3. Mr. Albert Traver, \$2. Total \$426. The following sums were also subscribed for the same object: Rev. L. Smith, Jun., \$20. Rev. C. A. Smith, \$5. Rev. H. N. Pohlman, \$5. Rev. W. A. Fetter, \$5. Mr. F. B. Lopez, \$3. Mr. L. Smith, \$3. Total \$41.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Mayer.

Adjourned.

### *Second Session.*

*Monday, 2 o'clock, P. M.*

Opened with prayer by the Rev. Henry N. Pohlman. Rev. Professor Miller, chairman of the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, reported as follows:—

"Your Committee have examined the Treasurer's Books, and find the several accounts properly vouched and correctly kept, showing balances as follows:

In the Synodical fund, of	\$11 60
In the Education fund, of	22 00
In the Missionary fund, of	10 33

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE B. MILLER, *Chairman.*"

V. *Resolved*, That the report be accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The communication from St. Peter's Church, Rhinebeck, being brought before the house, it was, with the concurrence of the delegate and commissioner from that Congregation, on motion of the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel,

VI. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with the Congregation at Rhinebeck, and visit them, if necessary, for the purpose of reconciling the differences existing there. Whereupon the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, H. N. Pohlman, and J. Berger were appointed said Committee.

The consideration of the expediency of raising funds for the establishment of an additional professorship in our Theological Institution, being next in order, was deferred until the presentation of the Report on Hartwick Seminary.



Agreeably to notice, the Rev. Dr. Mayer called up for consideration the following resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. Professor Miller, and unanimously adopted:—

VII. *Resolved*, That the efforts about to be made by the American Bible Society, in concurrence with other Bible Societies, to circulate the Holy Scriptures throughout our world, deserves the hearty approbation of Christians of every name; and that this Ministerium earnestly recommends to all the Churches connected with it, to assist in the accomplishment of the noble design.

The Rev. Joseph Harrison, of the delegation from the New-York Congregational Association, rose and stated, that it was the desire of the body whose representative he was—agreeing with us, as they do, in our ideas of Church Government, and on all great points of Christian doctrine—to establish a friendly intercourse with this Ministerium by the mutual appointment and reception of delegates. Whereupon,

On motion of the Rev. H. I. Smith, seconded by Rev. Dr. Mayer, it was unanimously

VIII. *Resolved*, That we cordially reciprocate the friendly feelings manifested towards our Church and this Ministerium by the brethren of the New-York Congregational Association;—and that the Rev. Henry N. Pohlman, Secretary of this Ministerium, be a delegate from this body to attend their next Meeting, which is to take place at Wantage, N. J., on the 3d Wednesday in May, 1835.

The Rev. Dr. Mayer, chairman of the Committee on the publication of our Hymn Book and Liturgy with additions, presented the following report:—

“The Committee appointed under Resolution XVII. of the last Synod, report, that they have carried said resolution into effect so far as circumstances permitted.

The first object that claimed their attention, was an arrangement with Michael Billmeyer, the proprietor of the copy-right of our book of Hymns, Liturgy, and Prayers, and his son Daniel, the publisher of the same, by which that right should be relinquished and assigned to the Ministerium.

The Committee next proceeded to a very careful examination of materials for the proposed additions to our Hymns and Litur-



gy : which resulted in the adoption of 180 of the former, and of several articles for the latter—all, it is believed, valuable in themselves, and suited to the wants and wishes of the Church.

It was then, after mature deliberation, determined by the Committee to publish the new book thus enlarged in the duodecimo form, to issue the additional Hymns in a separate volume, and to procure stereotype-plates of the whole. Accordingly propositions from different quarters having been compared, those of Mr. Henry Ludwig, of New-York, were preferred ; and contracts were made with him by a Sub-Committee, not only for furnishing the stereotype-plates, but also for publishing the work from these under their inspection.

In order to fulfil their engagements with Messrs. Billmeyer and Ludwig, your Committee resolved, in reliance upon the co-operation of their brethren, to endeavour to raise the amount required by subscription or collection, as a donation to the Ministerium. And they are happy to add, that \$380 have been contributed with this view from various Congregations. Out of these moneys, \$100 have been paid to Mr. Billmeyer for 320 copies of the old book in sheets, that were still on hand ; \$2 for recording the transfer, thus obtained, in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of the United States for the eastern District of Pa. ; and the remainder to Mr. Ludwig. The entire cost of the stereotype-plates, boxes, insurance, and new copy-right, taken out by the Sub-Committee, in trust for the Ministerium, being \$464 82, a debt of about \$184 is yet to be liquidated. This sum has been loaned to the Committee for a short time without interest ; and the repayment of it calls for immediate exertion.

The Committee present, along with this report, all the documents and vouchers connected with their operations. They feel pleasure in being able to state, that an edition of our new book, and one also of the Additional Hymns is now on sale. They congratulate the Ministerium on the possession of the means of constantly supplying our Hymns, Liturgy, and Prayers, in an acceptable volume, at a price so low as cannot fail to be perfectly satisfactory. They recommend, that at some future day, another set of plates be purchased for a small pocket edition. And they respectfully offer the following resolution.



IX. *Resolved*, That an effort be forthwith made in those Congregations, from which no aid has been received by the Committee on the Hymn Book, to collect a sum equivalent to the balance of the debt incurred; and that so soon as the Committee shall have settled this balance and reported the fact to the President, it shall be considered as discharged.

X. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Mayer be authorized to take measures for disposing of the copies of the old book, now in the care of G. W. Mentz and Son, Philadelphia, at the cheapest rates; and to furnish them to indigent persons gratuitously, and and to incipient or necessitous Congregations at the cost of binding and storage.

XI. *Resolved*, That a Standing Committee of five be appointed for the term of three years, to take charge of our stereotype-plates; to superintend the publication and sale of our Hymns, &c.; to receive the profits accruing therefrom; with these and any other moneys which they may obtain, to commence and establish a fund, to be denominated "The Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New-York, &c., for the assistance of disabled clergymen, and of the widows and orphans of clergymen belonging to the same; and to manage this fund according to such rules for its government, as may be enacted by the Ministerium.

XII. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jun., the Rev. F. G. Mayer, and George Arcularius, and P. W. Engs, Esq. constitute the Committee for the ensuing three years."

PHILIP F. MAYER,

WM. D. STROBEL,

F. G. MAYER,

F. W. GEISSENHAINER, jun.,

} Committee.

On Motion of the Secretary, it was

XIII. *Resolved*, That the Report be accepted, and published in the Minutes.

The resolutions presented by the Committee were then separately considered, passed, and the whole Report adopted.

The Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, from the Committee on the Hymn Book, presented the following



*Rules for the government of the Fund for the assistance of disabled clergymen, and of the widows and orphans of deceased clergymen.*

1. This Fund shall be under the direction of a Committee of five, who shall see to the receipt, investment, and disbursement of moneys under the direction of the Ministerium. They shall be appointed every three years, and render in an annual account of the state of the Fund.

2. The Fund shall be composed of the stereotype-plates of the Hymn Book, and such moneys as shall be collected as hereinafter prescribed, and such donations as may be made to it.

3. It shall be the duty of the Committee to invest whatever money may not be needed, on good security.

4. All the profits arising from the sale of the Hymn Book shall belong to this Fund

5. Every member, who shall hereafter be admitted into this Synod, or who may not have contributed towards paying for the stereotype-plates, shall pay to the amount of \$5, as an initiation fee; and every member shall pay, at the annual Meeting of the Ministerium, the sum of \$3.

6. No clergyman shall be entitled to the benefits of this Fund until he shall have contributed his regular dues for the space of five years, and as long thereafter as, in the judgment of the Committee, may have been in his power.

7. Whenever a clergyman shall have been disabled by sickness, or accident, or age, so that he can no longer discharge his duties, upon a satisfactory representation of his situation to the Committee, they shall allow him, during the period of his inability, \$100 per annum, for himself; \$50 for his wife; and \$12 for each child that he may have under fourteen years of age. When a clergyman shall die, the Committee, on application being made, shall relieve the wants of his family, by granting to his widow, so long as she remains unmarried, \$75 per annum; and to each child under fourteen years of age the sum of \$12.— In case there should be more money called for than the income of the Fund, it shall be divided amongst those entitled to it, according to the above ratio.



8. If any balance should remain on hand at the end of a Synodical year, it shall not be applied to the coming year, but be invested in the capital."

The above rules being accepted, were considered by sections and amended, when it was, after discussion, unanimously

XIV. *Resolved*, That the Rules for the government of the Fund, &c. be adopted.

The Rev. J. Eisenlord, of the Hartwick Synod, being introduced to the house, was invited to a seat as an advisory member.

XV. *Resolved*, That the communication of Mr. F. B. Lopez, in relation to the congregation at Newark, N. J., be referred to the Missionary and Education Committee.

The Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, Secretary of the Missionary and Education Committee, presented their annual Report. See Appendix B.

XVI. *Resolved*, That the Report be accepted, and published in the Minutes.

Agreeably to notice, the Rev. J. Berger called for the consideration of the following resolution, which was adopted:—

XVII. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to propose such alterations in the Constitution of this Ministerium, as may be necessary in order to its republication.

The President named as said Committee the Rev. J. Berger, Dr. P. F. Mayer, and Rev. F. G. Mayer.

The Rev. J. Berger, our delegate to the Hartwick Synod, reported as follows:—

"Having, by the XV. *Resolution* of your last Synod, been honoured with the appointment of delegate to the Hartwick Synod, I proceeded to Dansville, and arrived in time to hear the Inaugural Discourse of the Rev. President, A. Crownse. On Monday morning your delegate presented himself before that body, and was courteously received and admitted to a seat, but was informed, that by the constitution of their body, he could not be entitled to a vote in any of their proceedings. He found that the Candidate L. Swackhammer had already been received as a member of that body, in a session held on Saturday. The first subject which came up for consideration, was an application for



admission of the congregations of Osquack and Manheim. Your delegate then stated the object of his mission, and called the attention of the Synod to the fact, that these congregations for certain reasons had not yet received a regular dismissal from the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of New-York; that he deemed it highly expedient to suspend the reception of them until some basis of intercourse were established between the two Synods. But it was contended that, on the part of the Hartwick Synod, no application from any minister or congregation could be refused. They were accordingly admitted, as the Minutes of that Session will show; and afterwards a committee appointed, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Lintner, Weiting, and Mr. A. Kniskew, to confer with our Ministerium in reference to the matter entrusted to your delegate.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOB BERGER.

**XVIII. Resolved,** That the Report of our delegate be accepted, and published in the Minutes.

**XIX. Resolved,** That the Minutes of sister Synods be referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. G. B. Miller, H. I. Smith, Chas. A. Smith, F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr., and Dr. Geissenhainer.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. J. Berger.

This evening the Rev. Charles Jones, delegate from the New-York Congregational Association, delivered a discourse on 1 John ii. 17. "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

The Rev. R. Collier preached at the same time in Stone Arabia, on Psalms, ciii. 11—13. "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him," &c.

### **Third Session.**

*Tuesday, 8 o'clock, A. M.*

Opened with prayer by the Rev. H. I. Smith.

The Rev. Mr. Spinner, of the Dutch Reformed Church at Herkimer, was introduced to Synod, and invited to a seat as an advisory member.



The Minutes of the two preceding Sessions were read and approved.

On motion of the Rev. W. D. Strobel, seconded by Dr. Mayer,

**XX. Resolved,** That the Missionary and Education Committee be appointed at the same time with the other Officers of Synod, and hold their appointment for three years.

Whereupon the President named the following gentlemen as said Committee:—Dr. Geissenhainer, Rev. F. G. Mayer, W. D. Strobel, H. N. Pohlman, J. Berger, and P. W. Engs, Esq. and H. Ludwig. The Rev. J. Berger, from the Committee on the revision of the Constitution, proposed the following alterations:—

“On page 5, §11, line 7th and 9th and 13th,

for “either,”—read *any*.

On page 10, §3, line 6th,

for “shall”—read *may*.

On same page, §3, third line from the end,

for “within the bounds of its jurisdiction”—read, *within the Congregations in connection with this body*.

On page 20, §18, *instead of the first eleven lines, substitute—Ordination is hereby declared to be, in our judgment, the solemn dedication of a man to the gospel Ministry. In this public dedication of a minister, which shall be followed by an earnest charge to him, and by prayer to Almighty God, we account the imposition of the hands of the President and others on his head, an expression of our approval of him, and of our best wishes for him by these our agents.*

On page 26, transpose Article 6th under §14, so as to follow the 3d Article.

On page 28, Article 13th, under §14,

*For the first five lines, substitute—*

*At the close of any Synodical Session, a meeting of the ordained ministers and candidates may, on notice of the President, be held.”*

**XXI. Resolved,** That agreeably to §6, Chap. IX. of the Constitution, the proposed alterations be accepted, and laid on the table, to be acted upon at the next annual Meeting of the Synod.

The Rev. J. Berger, p. t. Chairman of the Committee on Hartwick Seminary, presented their annual report.—See Appendix C.



**XXII. Resolved,** That the Report be accepted and published in the Appendix, under the direction of the Secretary.

The Report was then brought up for consideration, and after an interesting discussion, in which all the brethren seemed animated by one object—the extension of the usefulness and prosperity of our beloved Seminary, and in which the only ground of difference was, whether we should put forth our energies at once and raise a Fund, or wait until we had settled preliminaries with the board of Trustees, and our sister Synod, it was on motion of Rev. W. D. Strobel,

**XXIII. Resolved,** That the Committee on Hartwick Seminary be authorized to hold a conference with the board of Trustees of that Institution, as to the terms on which they would be willing to appoint another Professor, provided funds be raised by the Synods for his support—and that they be authorized to confer on the same subject with the Hartwick Synod, and that they have full power to act on all matters contained in their report.\*

**XXIV. Resolved,** That the Rev. Messrs. W. D. Strobel, J. Berger, and C. A. Smith, be the Committee on Hartwick Seminary, for the ensuing three years.

Messrs. Z. Neahr and A. Dillenbach, Elders of the Stone Arabia Congregation, were introduced to the house, and invited to seats.

Agreeably to notice, the Rev. W. D. Strobel presented his resolution for the appointment of a committee on the state and prospects of the Lutheran Church in the United States; which, after discussion, was withdrawn by the mover.

On motion of the Secretary, it was

**XXV. Resolved,** That we comply with the request of the Congregations at Rochester and Rush, and cheerfully receive them into connection with this Ministerium, and that their petition for aid be referred to the Missionary and Education Committee.

The Rev. Professor G. B. Miller, chairman of the Committee

\* We understand, that at a Meeting of the Committees of the two Synods lately held, it was resolved, to raise the sum of \$300 per annum for five years towards the support of an assistant teacher, provided the Trustees grant the Synods certain Privileges.



appointed to examine the Minutes of other Synods, reported as follows:—

“Your Committee have been in part so much engaged in other business as to render it difficult to make any extracts, but they can say that they have seen nothing that very immediately interests this body.”

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. MILLER, *Chairman.*

XXVI. *Resolved*, That the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr. be our delegate to the next meeting of the Pennsylvania Synod.

XXVII. *Resolved*, That 20 copies of the printed Minutes of this Session be transmitted by the Secretary to the New-York Congregational Association.

XXVIII. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Synod be presented by the President this afternoon to the Congregation in this place, for their hospitable and friendly attention to the members composing this body during its present session.

Nothing now remained but to determine the time and place of the next meeting of Synod, when, upon an invitation from the Rev. President, it was

XXIX. *Resolved*, That this Synod now adjourn to meet on the 2d Saturday of September, A. D. 1835, at the Church under the pastoral care of the Rev. President, in Germantown, Columbia County, N. Y.

The business of this truly delightful Synod having thus been brought to a close, the Christian Farewell was sung, and the Brethren united with the Rev. President in presenting a thank-offering of prayer and praise before the Throne of Grace.

### ***Ministerial Session.***

*Monday, Sept. 1, 12 o'clock, M.*

The Session was opened with prayer by the Rev. President.

Agreeably to Chap. VI. §12. of the Constitution, the licenced candidates presented journals of their ministerial acts, and sermons of their own composition for the inspection of the Ministerium.

I. *Resolved*, That the journals and sermons of the licenced



Candidates be referred for examination to a Committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Mayer, Rev. Messrs. F. G. Mayer, J. Berger, Chas. A. Smith, and F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr.

The Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr. proposed for examination and licensure, Mr. Francis B. Lopez, Professor of Languages in the Newark Institute, N. J.

II. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer, Rev. Messrs. C. B. Thuemmel, and H. I. Smith, be a Committee to examine the applicant.

The Secretary presented a communication from the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Spruce Run, N. J. expressing their entire approbation of the walk, conversation, and labours of the Rev. Candidate Richard Collier, and desiring his ordination as their Pastor. The Rev. Senior, Dr. Geissenhainer, presented a similar testimonial of the correctness of the religious deportment of the Rev. Candidate, Christian F. Welden, and requested his ordination.

III. *Resolved*, That the applications for ordination be referred to the Committee appointed under the 1st *Resolution*, for the examination of the journals and sermons of the licenced Candidates.

Prayer by the Rev. Charles Jones.

Adjourned.

*Monday, 5 o'clock, P. M.*

Prayer by the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr.

The Committee on licensure reported progress.

The Rev. J. Berger, in behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Newark, N. J., made application for the ordination of the Rev. Candidate Philip Merkle.

IV. *Resolved*, That this application be referred to the Committee on examination appointed under *Resolution* 1st.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. F. G. Mayer.

*Tuesday, 12 o'clock, M.*

Opened with prayer by the Rev. G. B. Miller.

The minutes of the two preceding sessions were read and approved.

The Rev. Dr. Mayer, Chairman of the Committee on examination presented the following report:—



"The Committee appointed to examine the written sermons and journals of the several Candidates in connection with this Ministerium, report, that they have found the same in a high degree satisfactory, and recommend that the Ministerium admit the Rev. Messrs. Richard Collier, Christian F. Welden, and Philip Merkle to the rite of ordination."

P. F. MAYER, *Chairman.*

The report being received, it was unanimously

V. *Resolved*, That in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, the Rev. Candidates Richard Collier, Christian F. Welden, and Philip Merkle, be set apart, and ordained Ministers of our Lord Jesus Christ, this afternoon, at three o'clock, by the appointed solemnities of the Church.

VI. *Resolved*, That the licences of the Rev. Candidates, Lewis Smith, Jr. and William A. Fetter, be renewed. The Rev. H. I. Smith, from the Committee on Licensure, submitted a report on the examination of the applicant for licence, and recommended that Mr. Francis B. Lopez receive licence to preach and perform other ministerial acts in the town of Newark, State of New-Jersey, in connection with the Rev. P. Merkle, pastor of the Congregation in that place. Whereupon it was

VII. *Resolved*, That Mr. Francis B. Lopez be received this afternoon, as a licentiate by this Ministerium.

VIII. *Resolved*, That the case of the Rev. Candidate C. E. Denninger be referred to the Rev. President, with full power to act in the premises.

After the transaction of other business connected with the individual interest of certain portions of the Church, the Meeting was closed with a fervent prayer by the Rev. President.

### *Licensure and Ordination.*

The exercises of public worship, which derived additional solemnity from the occasion, were commenced at 3 o'clock, P. M. by the Rev. Senior, with reading a portion of God's word. And after a fervent petition for our Father's presence and blessing, the Rev. Dr. Mayer delivered the Ordination Sermon from Acts xxvi. 22, 23. "Having therefore obtained help of God, I con-



tinue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles." The applicant for licence then approached the altar; and the Rev. President, after the usual charge and advice, received the promises and engagements required by the Constitution; and invoking the blessing of the glorious head of the Church, gave him licence, and admitted him as a Candidate for the Ministry, and a member of the Ministerium.

The Candidates for ordination, having presented themselves to the Rev. President, were affectionately exhorted by him to evangelical zeal and activity in the duties of their holy calling. The questions were proposed; and after entering into the solemn engagements prescribed by the fundamental rules of the Ministerium, the Candidates knelt, and by the imposition of hands and by prayer were set apart and solemnly ordained to the sacred office of Pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and co-workers in the kingdom of the blessed Redeemer. The Rev. Senior and Dr. Mayer assisted the Rev. President in this apostolic rite. The newly ordained Pastors then received the right hand of Christian fellowship and love, and all the brethren drew nigh, presenting their affectionate congratulations and bidding them "God speed."

After uniting in singing a hymn appropriate to the occasion, the Rev. President expressed the thanks of the Synod to the Members of the Congregation for the kindness and hospitality they had shown us, and closed the interesting solemnities by invoking the blessing of the triune God, our Father, Saviour, and Comforter to rest upon them, and all the Churches of the Redeemer, now and evermore. Amen.

I certify, that the foregoing is a true and faithful account of the proceedings of the Thirty-ninth Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New-York and adjacent parts.

HENRY NEWMAN POHLMAN, *Secretary.*







## APPENDIX A.

---

*Yearly Report to the Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the State of New-York, &c., convened in the town of Palatine, Montgomery County, Sept. 1st, &c. 1834.*

Again, my beloved and respected Brethren, a year has run to its close and brought us a great step nearer to eternity, during which period the goodness and mercy of our God has known no end, nor any change except that of increase. The signal favours of him, who has said, "I will not leave nor forsake thee," have followed us through the year, and marked his footsteps among us. We, all and every one, who were assembled in the year past, are still in the land of the living, still engaged in the same great and good work, which occupied us before, still enjoying the powerful aid and the gracious smiles of our heavenly Father. Our boundaries have not been contracted, but rather enlarged; our ranks, instead of being thinned, have increased; and all and each of us can say truly, the Lord has been kind and good to us, he has visited us in loving kindness and tender mercy; witness the successful exertions of our Missionary institution, notwithstanding the difficulties under which it still labours,—witness the increased number of congregations, and of newly erected houses of worship,—witness the cheering prospects presented to our view from various sides. I now invite your attention to the specification of these general statements.

1. You will remember, that, although one of our brethren, induced by increasing age and infirmity, resigned his seat in our Ministerium, and lessened our number, a considerable number of older and younger fellow-labourers in the Gospel-ministry was added to our brotherly band. All these, according to opportunities and circumstances, have been actively engaged in their individual spheres, to the spread, we trust, of true religion and the good of many souls. Every one of them, either present with us or absent, I have no doubt, will give to this Ministerium a good account of himself and of his labours during the year past.

2. The congregation at Dilleburg, in the town of Ephrata, having become vacant by the resignation in our last Synod of their former pastor, I was requested by this Ministerium, to inform the Congregation of that event, which I have done under date Oct. 2d, 1833. Our Rev. brethren, Berger, Guinther, and C. A. Smith, who received it in charge to visit Dilleburg, will be able to give you more satisfactory information upon the present state of that and two other Congregations, to which the labours of their former pastor had extended.

3. Some time after the last Synod, I received from the Rev. Chas. E. Denninger of Evansmills, (at present residing in Laforgeville) letters accompanied by his parochial report, a sermon in the German language, and testimonials from the members of his Church council, which I lay before the Ministerium.

4. In conformity to a resolution passed in our Ministerial Meeting of last year, upon a letter received from the Rev. Ph. H. Dennler, Rome, Oneida Co., I gave myself the pleasure to inform that Brother of the receipt of his letter, and of the readiness of this Ministerium to receive him as a member, at the first opportunity which he might be enabled



to offer to that Body by his personal presence among us. My letter was dated Oct. 8th, 1833.

5. Some time in the month of December, the gratifying information came to me from our young Brother, the Rev. L. Smith, Jun. at Newark, that a considerable congregation of Germans had been formed in that place and promised to increase; that our Rev. Brother Geissenhainer, Jun. had administered the Lord's Supper for the first time among them to thirty-two persons. The prospects for an increase in that quarter appear to be very flattering.

6. In the same month, I received the painful intelligence of the death of our Rev. Brother, Lot Merkel. For many years he had retired from the active duties of the ministry in consequence of his advanced age and many infirmities—but we remember him in the days of his strength, as the active and indefatigable Missionary among our Western Settlements, and as the untired and useful labourer in the vineyard of our Lord. May he rest in peace among the dead whom the Master hath pronounced blessed.

7. In the early spring of the present year, our young Brother, the Rev. W. A. Fetter, affording me the pleasure of a visit, stated, that he intended to enter upon a missionary excursion to some western portion of our State, whither a considerable number of members of one of my congregations had successively removed these several years since. It was with great pleasure that I embraced the opportunity to supply him with letters of introduction to some Lutheran families residing in the towns of Lyons and Sodus, Wayne Co. Either Brother F. himself, or else our Missionary Committee, will, in the course of business, lay some information before this Body, making you better acquainted with that corner of our Missionary field, than it is in my power to do.

8. Letters from our Rev. Brother, W. L. Gibson, confirmed to me the fact, known to most of us, that our congregations, in general, are very deficient and lamentably remiss in the support of their religious pastors. Brother Gibson states the impossibility of supporting himself and his wife in his present situation, and expresses the desire of a translocation to some place where the hearers of the word of life are mindful of the Scriptures, which say, that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and that he, who imparts to men spiritual things, has, doubtless, a claim to some portion of their earthly possessions. I commend the case of Brother Gibson to the attention of this Synod.

9. Mr. Philip Merkle having made application through our Rev. Senior, and the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jun. and W. D. Strobel, I transmitted to him, in April last, a Licence in conformity to Resolution XI. of the last Meeting of our Ministerium. Mr. Merkle at present occupies the station which our young Brother L. Smith has left at Newark.

10. In agreement with Resolution XXV. of our last Synod, which honoured me with the commission to represent this Body as its Delegate in the Synod of Pennsylvania, I enjoyed the heartfelt gratification of meeting the Rev. Brethren assembled in Synod in the town of Reading, State of Pennsylvania, on the 26th of May of the present year. It would be superfluous to mention, that the hand of the most cordial friendship was extended to your Delegate, and that his sojourn among the Brethren was rendered highly pleasing to him by the kind attentions which he experienced from them. You will be pleased by being assured again, as you have been by your former Delegates, that the most amicable feelings are cherished by our Sister Synod towards us, which, God grant, may for ever remain unimpaired in them, and be reciprocated by us! In the course of business, I renewed the claims of



several congregations in our connection to a due proportion of the yearly proceeds of the Streit legacy, as laid before the Synod of Pennsylvania by our Rev. Senior, in their Meeting in the year past. I received the same assurances of their unaltered friendly regard to our claims, as were given to the Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer. I learned that the sum of \$400, laid apart last year from the interest of the above legacy as our presumptive share thereof, remained still untouched, waiting only for a decisive answer from the curators of that legacy in Germany, imparting sufficient light upon the true intention of the testator respecting the appropriation of the yearly profits derived from his pious bequest. As soon as such a long-expected answer to their letters should be received, the Rev. President, in the name of the Synod, assured me, that Body would not delay to determine upon the course, which justice and equity should point out, to be pursued by them with regard to the claims advanced by our Synod.—Thus we are still permitted to indulge in the cheering hope of a favourable issue.—As a token of their continued regard for our Synod, a Delegate was voted to represent the Synod of Pennsylvania in our present Meeting. The Rev. J. Miller, of Reading, already known to us, or, in default of him, the Rev. Mr. Hecht, of Easton, likewise no stranger to us, was to be that Delegate.

11. In the early part of the summer, the Rev. L. Smith, Jun. of Newark, gave me the official notice of his having left, at the expiration of the stipulated term, his station in the town of Newark, and accepted, upon mature reflection and consultation with elder, respected, and experienced Brethren, of a call for one year to the German-Reformed Congregation in the city of New-York, upon which he had entered May 11th, with the express condition on his part, to be regarded by that congregation in no other light, than that of a Lutheran minister and a member of this Ministerium. The congregation stands altogether independent, being connected with no Synod or Classis. Although the case is a new occurrence among us, still I have found no cause to apprehend, that this Ministerium would withhold its approbation from the step taken, slowly and considerately, by our young Brother. From Mr. Smith's letters, and from other sources, I derive the information, that Mr. Merkle supplies the former situation of Mr. Smith with the German-Lutheran Congregation at Newark.

12. Returning from Pennsylvania, I had the pleasure of meeting in the city of New-York with the Committee appointed in our last Synod, to provide for a new and enlarged edition of our Hymn Book and Liturgy. I found that the labours of that highly meritorious Committee had been as arduous as they had been assiduously attended to. Every thing relating to that useful undertaking had been brought into the fairest train of full and speedy success. The Report of the Committee, I hesitate not to say, will afford this Synod not only, but every friend of our Church a high gratification.

13. In a letter under 12th of July, the Rev. Mr. Denninger notified me of the change of his residence from Evansmills to Laforgeville.

14. Lately I received a letter from our Brother Starman, Waldoborough, Maine, the contents of which I recommend to the particular attention of the Missionary Committee not only, but of this whole Synod.

15. Mr. Fetter, who, as mentioned above, had proceeded in the spring of the present year to some Western parts of this State, for the purpose of exploring the Missionary field opened for our labours, conveyed to me, under 4th of August, the encouraging intelligence, that a new Lutheran Church had been erected in the town of Rush, at the consecration of which the Rev. Messrs. Eyster of Dansville, Guinther of Buffalo,



and Klein, of Lockport, assisted. He informs me, likewise, that in Rochester a similar building is to be reared in the spring of next year; that he has accepted of a united call from both those congregations, Mr. Welden, under whose charge they were, having united himself to the Lutheran Congregation in New Holland, Pennsylvania. Much as I regret the separation from us of our young Brother, Welden, who was an active and useful labourer, I cannot but feel satisfied, that his place is immediately supplied by his friend and brother Fetter. Both the congregations of Mr. Fetter desire to be connected with our Synod.

16. You will remember, my Brethren, that on account of some unfortunate differences, the formerly flourishing and respectable congregation at Rhinebeck has been vacant this some time. Those differences, I am exceedingly sorry to say, exist still. Through the present summer, however, several members of our Ministerium, and also a young Brother from the State of Maryland, the Rev. Mr. Riser, a member of the Synod of his native State, have visited and preached in that congregation. I fervently hope, that the unanimity and brotherly harmony, which in former times were wont to prevail in that Christian Society, will soon again take up their abode there, and convince the Christian worshippers, that peace and love are the characteristics of the followers of the Prince of Peace, and the conductors to the everlasting abodes of peace and bliss above.

17. On various accounts I have deemed it expedient to defer the promised collections in my congregations in aid of our Missionary and Education funds until the ensuing fall season. Whatever may be their product, I shall transmit to the treasurer of our Ministerium.

18. A few copies of German books for the use of destitute German worshippers I commit to the hands of our Missionary Committee.

19. I herewith hand to you several parcels of Minutes of the proceedings of the Sister Synods; from the States of Ohio 1, Virginia 6, Pennsylvania 20, and the Hartwick Synod 9 copies.

20. Our Ministerial Constitution being out of print, I leave it to you to decide, whether it shall be reprinted at present, or at some future period.

21. The period pointed out by our Constitution for the election of officers to this Ministerium having arrived, I herewith divest myself of that office, with which you have honoured, and in which you have supported me throughout the term, which now has come to its close. Casting a retrospective look over these three years past, my heart is deeply impressed with the feeling of humble gratitude to God, who has never ceased to extend his supporting hand towards me, who has in a signal manner smiled upon that portion of his Church, in which he has placed us as labourers, who has done us good and blessed us in various ways, who has kept us in the bonds of love and peace, and who has once more brought us together as friends, as brethren, as fellow-labourers in his vineyard, to rejoice in each other's society, to strengthen each other's hands for the work which still awaits us, and to be improved by each other's counsel and advice.—To you all, my beloved Brethren, I tender my sincere acknowledgments for the friendship, the kindness, the indulgence, which I have experienced from you, collectively and individually.

And now, may our God and Father in heaven be among us with his effectual presence, to imbue our souls with wisdom, to renew in us strength and zeal, to speak and to do his will; may his Spirit be our light and guide in the way of duty and life, and may his dear Son be our pattern in word and work, to his present and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

AUGS. WACKERHAGEN, *Prest.*



## APPENDIX B.

### *Report of the Missionary and Education Committee.*

Your Committee begs leave to report, that immediately after the adjournment of the last Synod, a Meeting was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the various applications which had been referred to us, upon which the following orders were taken.

Rev. Mr. Collier was engaged, with a small allowance from our fund, to proceed forthwith to Spruce Run, N. J. He has been settled there as Pastor. His prospects seem to be flattering; and we believe that a large and flourishing congregation may be built up there, if we are able to grant them from time to time a little assistance.

Rev. L. Smith was sent to Newark, N. J. under the direction of the Chairman of the Committee. He continued there until he received another call in May last, when he left this place in charge of Rev. Mr. Merkle. The number of members is about sixty, and is on the increase. They are already able to do considerable towards the support of a minister, and the prospects appear encouraging.

Rev. Mr. Welden was engaged as Missionary at Rochester and Rush. During the summer he resigned his charge to Rev. Mr. Fetter, who calculates upon locating himself permanently there. If we can continue assistance to these places, they bid fair to become valuable stations.

Rev. Mr. Weber was sent to Alleghany County; but meeting with but little encouragement, he turned his attention to some other field, though we have no particular report from him. To several other places we invited the attention of our Brethren who have settled congregations, but we have not heard what they have been able to do.

With our very limited funds, it could not have been expected that the Committee would do much. We have endeavoured to employ it to the best advantage, and hope hereafter to report the fruit of our labours. And here permit us to state, that, without the hearty co-operation of our Brethren in the Ministry, we shall be able to do but little. Upon them we depend entirely for information in relation to the state of the Church; and though we have used the utmost exertion, we have heard but little from those parts, where there must be much for us to do.

In Canada there are some settlements of Lutherans at a considerable distance from Brother Hayunga. There are numbers in Michigan. There is a small Congregation of Germans in Canajoharie; and from the crowds daily passing through the city of New-York, there must be a great many settlements in different parts of the State. The Committee feels sensible, that a great deal of good might be done amongst these people. From what we have seen, we know that they will receive our Missionaries with gladness, and that not one cent that may be contributed by our congregations would be thrown away. We take a higher view of Missionary operations, than that of making them the means of building up a sect. They constitute one of the legitimate objects of Christian benevolence, and cannot be better directed than to a class of people who have no other resource to look to for assistance but ourselves. The last command issued by our Master to his disciples was: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature;" and as the Ministry must ever compose but a small part of the collective body of Christians, we believe that it was his intention, that every one should still do something, in his peculiar sphere, for the propagation of Divine truth, and for the diffusion of the principles of peace on



earth and good-will to men. All are, in fact, not wanted as Preachers, but there is another way in which every member of the Church may fulfil the spirit of this command, by aiding those who are willing to go forth as the heralds of salvation, and in sending the glad tidings of the Gospel to the poor and destitute. The Committee would therefore recommend to their Brethren the propriety of forming Missionary establishments in their congregations; and we would endeavour to furnish them, from time to time, with such interesting facts as would be calculated to keep alive the spirit of diffusing the Gospel. Let it be enkindled in the hearts of the young and old, of the rich and poor; and if each of our members would only give us a small pittance, our means would be adequate. To a want of this spirit we must attribute the comparatively slow progress which the Gospel has made since the Reformation; for had there existed the spirit of apostolic days, there would not now be presented so many dark and benighted spots. We know not what the Christian Church can do, for she has never yet tried her strength. It will remain, perhaps, for the pen of some future historian to record her great and glorious success, when all her members have *come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty*. Confining our views to a narrower sphere, we shall still find strong inducements to urge us to action. We have attachments, strong attachments to the Church of our Fathers, and we wish to see perpetuated those grand principles of religion developed by the first reformer. In looking over the Christian Church in America, we find large and powerful associations formed for the purpose of diffusing their peculiar tenets; and these circumstances make it necessary, if we wish to accomplish our wishes, to collect together our resources, and to make some strenuous efforts, lest we be completely swallowed up by those who are anxious to direct their attention to every opening which may present itself. We feel anxious, too, to encourage this spirit, not only for the good we may be able to do for others, but from the conviction that it will strengthen our old congregations, and produce an increased devotion to the cause of Gospel truth. There is produced by it a unity of feeling, an identity with the Church, which causes us to realize, that no man liveth to himself; that we belong to a common family, having common interests. The sympathies of the heart will be awakened, and those expansive feelings of Christian benevolence aroused, which were inculcated by our Master, and which are so much in unison with the genius of Christianity.

Whilst pressing the necessity of Missionary operations, we would not lose sight of the great deficiency of ministers in our Church. During the past year we have been enabled to support two young men who are pursuing their studies at Hartwick Seminary. A well-educated ministry is much to be desired, for ignorance has always been the parent of error, superstition, and extravagance; and we ought to place such facilities in the way of our young men, as would prevent their pressing too early into the Church. At the same time, a foundation would be laid for preparing to send forth many *who would be able rightly to divide the word of truth*.

The Committee endeavoured to enforce so strongly, in the last Report, the duties connected with this subject, that they feel at a loss in what language now to present it. Our numbers are comparatively small, whilst a loud call is daily made for more;—as fast as our young men can be licensed, they find situations. But one fact would then appear necessary to be illustrated, whether we can do any thing towards supplying this deficiency. The experience of all our Synods bears witness to the efficacy of Education funds. They may perhaps occa-



sionally be appropriated to an unworthy object; but, on the whole, they have contributed largely towards the extension of the Christian cause, and particularly to the prosperity of our own Church. In almost every congregation, there is some pious, well-disposed young man, willing, and perhaps anxious, to study for the ministry; but he has not the means. It is not necessary that the funds should be sent to us; but let his friends, who know him and have confidence in him, take him by the hand and send him to the Seminary, for the expense is but trifling; and if each of our churches, pursuing this plan, should in the next five years be able to raise up from their midst one preacher of the Gospel, what a change would not be wrought in the aspect of our Zion! Let those who have it not in their power to act so extensively send us their mite; and if we can only educate two in each year by the united contributions of all our Churches, we are doing something.

In conclusion, we would barely say: See how small have been our means, and how much we have done. Let this be an earnest of what we can do with more. The whole of this State is a Missionary field. In each of our western counties there are Lutherans enough to form congregations. When once the spirit of sending the Gospel to the poor has been awakened, it will diffuse itself with rapidity. It will spread from soul to soul. Each new congregation which may be planted, will furnish coadjutors in the work, and what wonders may not then be accomplished for the salvation of fallen man! What multiplied triumphs of the cross will not take place! How swiftly will not the knowledge of the truth be borne to the remotest nations of the earth! Such hopes will present themselves to the mind of him, who regards the Church and all its members as bound to labour in the Missionary cause, and the world as a Missionary field. Brethren you have laid upon us the business of your Missionary operations; we have taken it willingly, and entered upon the work with zeal; for we feel that the interests of Christ's kingdom, of our own Zion, and of immortal beings, are at stake. We call upon you for your constant and vigorous aid. Go home to your congregations, tell them the destitute circumstances of our Brethren: present the rich blessings they enjoy, in comparison with the condition of those who are hungering and thirsting for the bread and waters of life; tell them we want the means of sending the glad tidings of peace to the poor, to pour the balm of consolation into the sorrow-stricken heart, to turn the sinner from the error of his way, to discharge the duty which Christ has enjoined upon his followers, of evangelizing the world. Let them borrow of the spirit which glows in your breasts, and sure we are, that the waste places will be made to rejoice, and our Zion will flourish as a garden nurtured and watered by the hand of the Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

F. W. GEISSENHAINER, *Chairman.*

W. D. STROBEL, *Secretary.*

F. G. MAYER.

J. BERGER.

H. N. POHLMAN.

P. W. ENGS.

A. F. CAMMEYER.

*Account of Education-Money.*

Amount received last Synod . . .	\$122 00	
Paid F. Springer . . .	\$42 00	
Paid E. Mayer . . .	43 00	
	<hr/>	85 00
Balance . . .	\$	37 00

*Account of Missionary-Money.*

Balance on hand . . .	\$ 57 83	
Received last Synod . . .	122 50	
	<hr/>	\$180 33
Paid Rev. Collier . . .	\$50	
Paid Rev. Welden . . .	50	
Paid Rev. Weber . . .	60	
Paid Rev. L. Smith . . .	10	
	<hr/>	170 00
Balance . . .	\$	10 33



## APPENDIX C.

---

### *Report of the Committee on Hartwick Seminary.*

The Committee respectfully report, that they have paid their annual visit to the Seminary, and have discharged with more than ordinary pleasure the duty assigned them. The examination of the students connected with the Classical department of the Institution took place on Tuesday, and that of the Theological department on Wednesday, the 26th and 27th days of August. The result of the examination was not only satisfactory, but evinced a spirit of industry and application to study, of which we feel bound to speak in terms of high commendation. On the evening of Tuesday, a number of young gentlemen, members of the Philophronean Society, and on Wednesday evening the students in immediate connection with the Theological department, acquitted themselves to their own credit, and to the manifest satisfaction of crowded and intelligent audiences, in the exercise of public speaking. The sentiments contained in the pieces delivered on those occasions were such as we should expect to hear from the members of an institution whose chief object is to prepare young men for the ministry of reconciliation, and many of them gave evidence of possessing oratorical powers of a high order. The Professors deserve the thanks of the Church for their unremitted exertions to elevate the character of the institution; and there was abundant testimony afforded at both the examinations, that their exertions have in a measure been crowned with success. No efforts are spared on their part to hold out to those entrusted to their charge, every facility for moral and intellectual improvement, and especial care is taken that the attainments of the Theological students be such as shall constitute them workmen who need not be ashamed when they engage in the actual service of the Church.

On Wednesday afternoon, it was announced to your Committee, that the Board were ready to receive them. A few items of intelligence, politely communicated by the Board, and of interest to this Synod, are subjoined:—

The Rev. H. I. Smith has been appointed Assistant Professor.

An extended course of study, preparatory to admission into the Theological department, has been recommended by Professor Miller, and adopted by the Board. *See page 35.*

This course, in connection with the improved Theological course also recommended, can be fully entered upon only in case another Professor be appointed: and it is with pleasure we declare our conviction, that the time is not far distant when this desirable object will be effected. The Board have acted on a recommendation submitted to them to make such an appointment, at their last meeting, but it was found that the state of the funds did not warrant it. A resolution, however, was passed which is calculated to invite the attention of the Synod to this subject, and urge the adoption of immediate measures which will result in the establishment of another professorship, and in the consequent prosperity of the Institution. The funds are on the increase; but the income is so gradual that the hope of adopting fully the extended course of preparatory study, if it is to be derived from this source, must be excluded for a long time to come. A considerable sum has been



expended, during the past year, in repairing the edifice; and we were informed that a still larger sum would be appropriated to the same purpose. The number of students during the past term was forty-three, which, when compared with the number of former periods, presents the present condition of the Institution in an encouraging light.

Your Committee cannot close this Report, without laying before this Body a few considerations, which they deem of the highest importance. Among other things, they consider it the duty of the Synod to give their cordial support to the efforts of the Professors of Hartwick Seminary, to elevate the intellectual character of the ministry of our Church. Our unqualified confidence in these gentlemen calls for such co-operation. The policy of investing young men with the sacred office before their acquirements have qualified them for the momentous work, is well known to have been pursued in our Church to an alarming extent. According to the plan of study obtaining in our Theological Seminary, an individual is required to remain for a period of three years after he has finished the classical or collegiate course. If, then, the rule of our Seminary is adopted as the rule of our Synods, and if every door of entrance into the ministry is shut against every applicant for licensure who had not passed through a regular and systematic course of theological study, we have to mourn over the thousand evils that flow from clerical ignorance no longer. In justice we are compelled to say, that this Ministerium has given evidence in a proceeding of no very remote occurrence, that they are determined to be guided in reference to the examination and licensure of students of our Theological Seminary, by the opinion and advice of the Faculty.

This is as it should be. And no member of any theological Institution within the bounds of our Church, should be entitled to the privilege of an examination, if he present himself as a candidate for the sacred office without satisfactory testimonials of his acquirements. But whatever this Ministerium may do towards the attainment of this desirable end, will avail but little without the co-operation of other Synods. There ought to be a perfect understanding between every Synod and every Theological Institution in the United States. There must be singleness of purpose and unity of effort in this respect throughout the whole Church—else the rejection of an applicant by one body will only be the prelude of his triumphant entrance into another. We consider this a subject so eminently important as to be worthy the attention of every Synod and minister in our connection. Talents, learning, and piety, are the materials that go to form an efficient ministry. Let these be united in any individual, and he will be eminently qualified for the Master's work. Let him be destitute of any one of these, and his usefulness must necessarily be confined to a very narrow sphere.

Your Committee also believe, that the time has come when every minister among us ought to make an extraordinary exertion for the enlargement of our ministerial ranks. This may be done in two ways;—by urging young men of talents and piety, possessed of the means of acquiring an education to consider whether it be not their duty to devote themselves to the ministry of reconciliation; and by affording pecuniary aid to those, who, destitute only of such means, stand ready to devote themselves to that ministry. We would, doubtless, all find it easy to act upon both these recommendations, were the state of our Education Fund such as to afford the hope of pecuniary aid to every applicant. In fact, we have been informed upon the best authority, that there are no less than thirty individuals (including those who are now pursuing their studies and those who are ready to commence them) in this State



alone, determined to devote themselves to the service of the Church. The question is, shall we extend to these that aid and encouragement, which the resources of the Church are abundantly able to supply? Or shall we drive them to the alternative of entering upon the duties of another profession?

It is true, *something* has been done, but with forty organized congregations, and only twenty-three ministers to supply their spiritual wants, infinitely more remains to be accomplished, before that cry, reiterated again and again, "come over and help us," will be hushed. It is a question whether our zeal in this respect has been proportionate to its objects, and whether we, as ministers, have not been wanting in our efforts to excite a spirit of liberality and expanded benevolence among our people. According to the full measure of our ability, we must take the lead in every noble enterprize if we would ever persuade our brethren that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." Let it then be adopted as an invariable principle, that no suitable applicant for aid to prepare himself for the sacred ministry shall be rejected; that we will, as one man, as a Christian body actuated by one spirit, come up to this good work, and the blessing of the Most High will assuredly afford the requisite means.

We have already alluded to the recommendation of Professor Miller, to the Trustees of Hartwick Seminary, in regard to the appointment of an additional Professor in that Institution. In accordance with that recommendation, it was by the Board

*Resolved*, That although the Board deem the appointment of a third Professor a matter of great importance to the interests of this Institution, and that they would cheerfully make such appointment, if the Funds for the payment of his salary could be in any manner provided for that purpose, yet considering the state of the Funds of this Institution, it is inexpedient, at this time, to make such appointment.

The question here arises, whether it be not expedient for this Ministerium to adopt some measures for the accomplishment of an object at once so important and desirable. True, a fund of 10 or \$12,000 would be required for the purpose. But, whatever may be the misgivings of some, excited by the bare mention of an amount so formidable, we are sanguine in the belief that it only requires the instrumentality of proper exertion to bring about this desirable result in the course of a few months. The establishment of such a fund is no longer an experiment.

Similar undertakings among other Christian denominations, as well as our own, have been crowned with success. We are therefore full in the faith that the sum necessary for this fund *can* be raised among the congregations connected with the two Synods of this State. And if this is possible, let it not be looked upon as a chimerical and hopeless attempt before a single exertion be made. If we reason from analogy, there is much to encourage us—the examples of others invite us to embark—our past experience urges us onward. There are means in the Church, and all we ask is to have some of them appropriated to this noble enterprize. Surely, we hope, Christians in this enlightened age can be made to feel that the gold, and the silver, and the lands, and the cattle upon a thousand hills are only held in trust by them as stewards in the service of our Divine Master. If we engage in this undertaking and fail, it will be for want of a disposition on the part of the Church to devote a very small portion of its wealth to the promotion of its own interests. Let it be remembered that Hartwick Seminary was intended by its founder expressly for the education of young men for the gospel ministry; but, according to the present arrangement, this great



object is in a measure lost sight of. The Professors are required by law to devote the whole of their time from half past eight o'clock in the morning till twelve, and from half past one till four in the afternoon, to the Classical department of the Institution, whose members are preparing for different professions, and some for mercantile and mechanical pursuits; and the consequence is, that the Theological students only enjoy the benefit of their instruction after the arduous labours of the day, which they are bound by law to perform, are finished.

In closing this Report, your Committee indulge the hope, that the few hints here thrown out may lead to some efficient action. May no efforts be wanting on our part for promoting the interests of this Institution; and if it does not rank with the very first in our country, let the cause be discovered somewhere else than in the inactivity of those who are its warmest and most devoted friends.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. BERGER,

C. A. SMITH.

---

*Course of Classical Studies adopted by the Board of Trustees of Hartwick Seminary, Aug., 1834.*

1st Term.	2d Term.	3d Term.
<b>FIRST YEAR.—Beginners.</b>		
1. Latin Grammar,	1. Jacob's Reader,	1. Jacob's Latin Reader,
2. Jacob's Reader,	2. Mair's Introduction,	2. Caesar,
3. Jac. Read. & Mair's Int.	3. Greek Gram. & Test't,	3. Græc. Min.
4. English Grammar,	4. History, Tytler,	4. Mair's Introduction,
5. Geography,	5. Geography.	5. History, Tytler.
6. Review Arithmetic.		
<b>SECOND YEAR.—Freshmen.</b>		
1. Cæsar,	1. Virgil, 3 & 4 B.	1. Virgil, 5 & 6 B.
2. Virgil, 1st Book,	2. Cicero's Orations,	2. Cicero's Orations,
3. Græca Min. prose,	3. Mair's Introduction,	3. Mair's Introduction,
4. Greek Introduction,	4. Græca Min. poetry,	4. Herodotus and Thucyd,
5. Natural Philosophy.	5. Chemistry,	5. Le Gendre, (pl. Geom.)
	6. Ancient Geography.	6. Sallust, Cicero Officiis.
<b>THIRD YEAR.—Sophmore.</b>		
1. Tacitus,	1. Horace,	1. Tacitus,
2. Horace & Lat. Prosody	2. Roman Antiquities,	2. Xenophon, Mem. & Plato,
3. Xenoph. Cyr. & Anab.	3. Livy, 5 Books,	3. Aristotle,
4. Le Gendre (Solid)	4. Lysias, Isoc. & Demos.	4. Odyssey,
5. Mair's Int. Hist. Eng.	5. Algebra,	5. Algebra.
	6. Greek Introduction.	

German and French to be taught constantly.